GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:946
ANSWERED ON:23.11.2001
SMUGGLING AT NORTH EASTERN STATES
BHIM PRASAD DAHAL

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Government are aware that there has been increase in the smuggling activities in the North-Eastern States including Sikkim in the recent past;

(b)if so,the details thereof;

(c)the number of persons arrested during the current year in connection with smuggling activities;and

(d)the steps taken or proposed to be taken to check such activities in the North-Eastern Region?

Answer

(SHRI GINGEE N.RAMACHANDRAN) MINISTER OF STATE(REVENUE)IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(a), (b) & (c): There are no reports to suggest that there has been any increase in smuggling activities in the North-Eastern States including Sikkim in the recent past. Details of seizures effected and persons arrested under Customs Act, `62 by the jurisdictional customs authorities within the above mentioned areas during the current year (upto October,2001) in the North- Eastern States including Sikkim are as follows:

Year seized in booked	No. of cases arrested	Value of goods (Rs. Lakhs)	No. of persons
2001-2002 (upto Oct.,2001)	3985	929.11	42

(d) : All the field formations under the Customs Department including Directorate of Revenue Intelligence are alert and vigilant to detect and prevent smuggling of contaband goods in the country including Sikkim and other North-Eastern States.